

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-12. (canceled).

13. (new): A method for preparing a golf ball having on its surface a coating formed from a paint composition, the method comprising the steps of:

preparing the paint composition by compounding an aqueous resin having photo-curable functional groups in a molecule, a photoinitiator, and a crosslinker into a solvent comprising water;

coating the paint composition on an exterior surface of the golf ball;

drying the paint composition to vaporize the water; and

curing the paint composition by exposure to light, thereby to obtain the coating.

14. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 13, wherein said aqueous resin comprises a resin selected from the group consisting of urethane resins, acrylic resins and polyester resins.

15. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 13, wherein said aqueous resin is prepared by introducing water-soluble groups into a base resin.

16. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 15, wherein said water-soluble groups comprise one or more groups selected from the group consisting of carboxyl groups, sulfonate groups, and amino groups.

17. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 13, wherein said photo-curable functional groups comprise one or more groups selected from the group consisting of acrylic groups, methacrylic groups, cinnamoyl groups and azido groups.

18. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 13, wherein said crosslinker comprises a crosslinker selected from the group consisting of a carbodiimide-based crosslinker, an ethyleneimine-based crosslinker, an oxazoline-based crosslinker and an epoxy-based crosslinker.

19. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 18, wherein the crosslinker comprises a carbodiimide-based crosslinker selected from the group consisting of N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide and 1-ethyl-3-(3'-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide.

20. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 18, wherein the crosslinker comprises an ethyleneimine-based crosslinker selected from the group consisting of 2,2-bishydroxymethylbutanol-tris(3-(1-aziridiny)propionate) and diphenylmethane-bis-4,4'-N,N'-diethyleneurea.

21. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 13, wherein said photoinitiator is added in an amount of at least 0.5 part by weight and up to 5 parts by weight, per 100 parts by weight of aqueous resin solids.

22. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 13, wherein a surface layer of the golf ball onto which the paint composition is coated comprises a material based on an ionomer resin, a urethane resin, or a hard rubber.

23. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 13, wherein said paint composition has a viscosity of at least 10 centipoise and up to 50 centipoise when coated onto the exterior surface of the golf ball.

24. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 13, wherein the light used for curing is UV radiation.

25. (new): The method for preparing a golf ball of claim 13, wherein the paint composition is coated onto the exterior surface of the golf ball without any pre-treatment of the exterior surface.